

LETTER FROM TAHITI.

2d Missionary Field Re-opened
After Forty-two Years' Abandon-
ment.

Tahiti, Society Islands,
October 10, 1892.

Dear Doctor News:
Thinking a short letter from this
part of Oceania will be interesting to
many readers of the News I submit
the following for publication:

We often read letters from different
parts descriptive of the Sandwich
Islands and New Zealand (the islands
being off the great steamship line
ranging from San Francisco to Sydney,
Australia), but little heard of, and
unless the nature of those beautiful
islands of the South Pacific is almost un-
known to the majority of the inhabi-
tants of our temperate zone.

There are five islands in this group
(Tahiti being the largest). These
with the Tuamotu and Gambier Islands
are all under the French flag.

Tahiti and Tapua, with their adjacent
islands, are very productive. All
typical fruits, such as oranges,
grapes, mangos, pineapples, etc.,
grow abundantly. Many choice
vegetables of the temperate climes
are cultivated there. The island
is brought into market by
Gambier, which is the most success-
ful port, and are well rewarded for
their produce.

The principal exports are coconuts,
copra and vanilla. Some cotton and
coffee are cultivated, but not extensively;
the buying price being so low the
people do not care to cultivate it.

It is said that the natives have
been cultivating to a great extent,
which is regrettable as they pass their
time in idleness, saying there is no
profit in industry. Large sugar
plantations, however, are the Altimo-
nian Islands, the Altimonians of Tahiti
were successfully managed by Uncle Harry
many years ago by a Mr. Stewart,
and gave employment to several thousand
people. Sugar is now only man-
ufactured for home consumption, but
it is now shipped and compete
with other market prices. Great
quantities of ava, an intoxicating bever-
age, are made from the juice of the
sugarcane, sold to the natives,
which is the foundation of many evils
existing there.

The Gambier Islands, located about
six miles northeast of Tahiti, unlike
the other islands, are not mountainous.
They are of coral formation and
used for the production of pearls.
Most of these pearls are
brought to market annually to
different parts of the world. A good
many fruits and vegetables grow
there, though the cucumbers, melons,
and this with the many varieties of
potatoes, are the principal fruits.
The island certainly must be very nu-
merous, as the natives are of the largest
and most corpulent type. The size of
the Tuamotu natives in several shades
darker than that of the Tahitian, owing
to their constant labor in the hot sun
without water—driving for the pearl
shells.

About the year 1850 A. D. the
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day
Saints had a remarkable harvest, at least
10,000 converts throughout the different
groups of these islands. Shortly after
these date the missionaries were
compelled to leave, and many of these
converts suffered imprisonment for the
Gospel's sake at the hands of jealous
opponents. Many have passed, and
others whose wives entered the
church.

On the 25th of January, 1892, myself
and companion, Brother W. A. Sweg-
gler, of Richfield, Utah, landed on
Tahiti, having been invited by the
Church of Jesus Christ of Lat-
ter-day Saints, and upon inquiry
we learned that most all the church
members of former days were dead,
while a younger class, being left to
sojourn without a shepherd, had
associated themselves with other de-
nominations.

We were granted with many
discouraging remarks, but assured
those who could speak English that we
had come to stay. Two weeks after
arriving we started on foot to begin the
study of our new language. We were
hailed at every town with "Au revoir
Frere! (How are you, strangers?) and
when we said "We are not Frenchmen
would cry out "House not to me-
tation! (Come and eat with us!) We
soon learned the meaning of these
words of greeting, and very thankfully
accepted the kind invitation to eat,
so we did. It was a great treat to eat
at that time, had much rice and
meat to contend with, and on the
east side of the island we had many
rivers to wade; but we succeeded in
making the tour of one hundred miles
around the island, finding that the
native people are very hospitable
and kind.

This last words of Lord Bacon were
"The last words of Lord Bacon were
'Thy creatures, O Lord, have been
my books, but thy Holy Scriptures
much more. I have sought this in
the courts, fields and gardens; but I
found them, O God! in thy submis-
sions—thy temple."

A Hermit Apple Dessert.
A very nice apple dessert is made as fol-
lows: Take a ripe apple, core it, and water
it, then split it all out, and a water-
cress root through a slice, mix some powdered
sugar with the juice of a lemon, add
half an ounce of dried orange dissolved in
a little water, stir into the apples and pour
over them; when it is done, add a few cream
and serve with custard or whipped cream.
If red gelatin is not at hand, dissolve the
white in a little water for the desired color.

I will add before closing that all
navigation from the different islands
to San Francisco is accomplished
by sailing vessels only.

Very respectfully,
Joseph W. Damon.

BORN TO GO ANYWHERE.

One day could not be measured by
the measure of the day.

Uncle Harry had lived all his life
in an inland town of New Zealand.
He was a farmer, his father and
grandfather before him had been
farmers, but these must have been a
strain of old Norse blood in his veins
for he loved the sea, and ever since
he had left all his dreams had been

of adventures on the mighty billows.
More than anything else he longed for
the excitement and perils of a whaling
voyage. At the country grocery
or at his own residence—where the sub-
ject of his conversation to Aunt Ada
and his children—he delighted to give a minute
description of the great industry, of
that time in its primitive days.

As his lad never seen the sea or a
ship his description probably lacked
what is known to those who have.
He was the first to recognize the fact.
He often quoted his mother's words when
striving with his wife over what to do.
And when the responses were lamentable
this was not at his own residence—but
left constrained to offer an apology.

Only soon han, you know. Never
see it myself.

There came a time when his desire
to see the great ocean—with his
own eyes could no longer be resisted,
and he turned himself to broach the
matter to his wife.

That good woman, product of the
rock naked state of Vermont, knew
her husband with her eyes.
"Can't build whales!"

Not being able to sleep, Uncle
Harry could think of nothing per-
fect to say, and the subject was
dropped. All day long Aunt Ada
kept a keen face over an uninteresting
smile, and more than once she
leant over her churning tubs musing
what had been heard to matter. "Whales?"

At night time Uncle Harry got
to the root of the matter.

"What a man needs is hearing
men."

This he repeated several times, at
first plaintively, then with emphasis
—the horn was not near the house.
It was perhaps needless to say that the
necessary encouragement was not
forthcoming, but a determined con-
viction is not to be repressed, and he
was long Uncle Harry was talking
whale-watching with added fervency
of voice and manner.

At length Uncle Harry pooh-poohed, but he
was not to be turned from his pur-
pose.

At length Aunt Ada said this much:
"I don't know what you are doing,
but it is not right and complete
with others mixed up. Great
quantities of ava, an intoxicating bever-
age, are made from the juice of the
sugarcane, sold to the natives,
which is the foundation of many evils
existing there."

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six miles northeast of Tahiti, unlike
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there, though the cucumbers, melons,
and this with the many varieties of
potatoes, are the principal fruits.

Price I. shillings not a bit high."

Uncle Harry admitted, "not,"
but faced his wife squarely. "I'm bound
to go if I don't catch but ten a
day!"—Yours truly.

The Name of Western Cities.

An enterprising west for the first
time will find many of the person-
alized notions of pronunciation used.
But, but, but is sounded like
the first, free letters in "beautiful".
In California the people adhere very
closely to the original Spanish pronunciations of names derived from
that tongue. Thus San Jose is pronounced
"San Hosa." There is a "u" in "uva."
I wonder how the people who
give these pronunciations can be
as accurate as the Asiatic Calif-
ornians. They sound an English
written "plains" as "Uva." On the
second syllable of Willmette it
is strongly accented, and the word
sounds like "William."

In San Francisco one day I asked a
clerk in a drugstore who had hailed
from Africa. He had never been in
Africa. I called it "Tuckson." He
said no, but he had frequently visited
"Tucson." Against the second
syllable strongly, and the last, "on"
in "not." Spokane is not "Spoo-nay";
but "Spoo-nay," with the "a" sounded
as in "act" and the accent on the
second syllable. Wright is "Wright-
son," first syllable accented. And so on ad infinitum.—C. New York
Tribune.

A stock of Pines.

A stick is a sharp, spasmody pain
in the muscles of the side like the
pricking of a needle, and is very apt
to be produced if exercise is taken
immediately after a hearty meal.
This arises because the nervous
energy necessary for the proper
working of the muscles in exercise is
engaged in another direction—namely,
in assisting the digestion of the
food. Anything that interferes with
the proper supply of nervous energy
requires for exercise, whether it be
digestion or the process of digestion
or excretion arising from over ex-
cretion, is apt to cause this spasmody
pain.—Brooklyn Eagle.

The Counter.

According to Hinchliffe, the mus-
tive pinions of the bird enable it to
star over all the summits of the An-
des, to circle for hours in these re-
gions of low pressure, and thence on
a sudden to descend to the sea-shore,
thus passing rapidly through all grad-
ations of climate.—Edinburgh Re-
view.

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\$500 Reward!

We will pay five dollars reward for the
return of Captain John C. Johnson,
of the steamer White Crescent, who
was captured by pirates in the Indian
Ocean, and is now held in slavery.

He is a native of New England.

He is a good sailor.

He is a good seaman.

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He is a good sailor.